

I am perpetually grateful for the brave men and women who place themselves in the line of fire to protect others. Thank you all for your service and sacrifice, and may God bless America.

STRENGTHENING CYBERSECURITY INFORMATION SHARING AND COORDINATION IN OUR PORTS ACT OF 2017

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 3101, the Strengthening Cybersecurity Information Sharing and Coordination in Our Ports Act of 2017. This legislation would increase cybersecurity measures at ports.

As we have seen in the last couple months, all sectors of our government are in danger of being compromised due to our outdated cybersecurity standards. This past June, the Port of Los Angeles and businesses were compromised by hackers, shutting down essential structures of our economy. The security firm, Symantec, warned that hackers may have even gained access to parts of our energy grid.

H.R. 3101 authorizes the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to more freely share information regarding the cybersecurity threats to our naval interests. As a part of this bill, the DHS would continuously assess current and future cybersecurity risks, seek input from the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center, create guidelines to encourage the reporting of cybersecurity risks, and implement recommendations from other agencies to enhance the security for emergency response agencies, law enforcement, ports, and our maritime border. The bill would also direct the Coast Guard to share information regarding port-specific vulnerabilities and enact security plans to prevent and respond to cyber threats. Because of today's constant cybersecurity risks, it is imperative that we have proper contingency plans in place to respond to any threats that may appear. We must actively take steps to ensure the safety and security of our maritime infrastructure to better prepare ourselves for the threats of the 21st century.

As a Representative of Atlanta, I was shocked to see how hackers were able to infiltrate Equifax and so easily compromise the privacy of millions of Americans. By being proactive, this body has the chance to prevent other similar cybersecurity attacks that would target our government and infrastructure. I have previously supported other cybersecurity-related legislation that would secure the integrity of our elections and now I believe that we should extend this security to other vital infrastructure, which is why I am pleased to support H.R. 3101.

RECOGNIZING THE QUAD CITIES STUDENT HUNGER DRIVE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Quad Cities Student Hunger Drive for its long-time commitment to collecting food for those in need. This annual fundraising event promotes volunteerism, raises awareness for hunger, and collects food and monetary donations for River Bend Foodbank.

The Quad Cities Student Hunger Drive is a local branch of the national Student Hunger Drive, and has been dedicated to collecting and donating food for the hungry for over 3 decades. In 2016 alone, a total of 378,461 pounds of food was collected through the combined efforts of 16 high schools from the Quad Cities and surrounding areas. Since 1986, the Student Hunger Drive has collected over 17 million pounds of food, and its efforts have provided 14 million meals for residents of the Quad Cities and surrounding communities in need. The 32nd annual Student Hunger Drive kicked off on October 2nd, with 17 schools in the area participating. I am proud there are such caring, determined youth in our community, and that our community schools' staff and administrators have continued to stay committed to this important effort year after year.

The generous and ambitious participants of the Student Hunger Drive make me especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Mr. Speaker, I would like to again formally recognize all who organize and contribute to the Quad Cities Student Hunger Drive for their outstanding efforts and accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING ZIONSVILLE PLEASANT VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school in my district that is being honored as a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate Zionsville Pleasant View Elementary School in celebration of this special occasion.

The National Blue Ribbon designation, given by the United States Department of Education, is awarded to both public and private schools across our great nation. Started by President Reagan and given annually since 1982, the award celebrates great American schools that achieve very high learning standards or are making significant improvements in the academic achievements of their students. In my district and across the country, the award recognizes the great educators, students, and parents who have worked so hard to ensure our children reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

For all of these reasons and many more, I am so proud that Zionsville Pleasant View Ele-

mentary School is receiving this prestigious designation. It is a wonderful acknowledgment of the school's commitment to providing young Hoosiers an exceptional education. While hundreds of schools nationwide were nominated, only 342 schools were designated as 2017 National Blue Ribbon Schools. Of the 342 schools, Zionsville Pleasant View Elementary School was one of seven Indiana schools to receive recognition, making this recognition all the more impressive.

Zionsville Pleasant View Elementary is committed to providing a nurturing environment for the intellectual, physical, and social development of each child. A wide variety of assessment opportunities and formats are used to determine student knowledge and growth. From there, the dedicated staff at Zionsville Pleasant View Elementary engage students in meaningful educational tasks that promote thinking and reasoning. Their hard work is deservedly rewarded with this Blue Ribbon Award.

As an advocate for education and youth, I also want to acknowledge how important it is to our nation's future to encourage and raise a new generation of Americans who have the skills and knowledge to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Students like those at Zionsville Pleasant View Elementary School give me hope that we will accomplish this vital mission. Their outstanding work is an inspiration to students, educators, and parents across the nation. Once again, congratulations to Zionsville Pleasant View Elementary School. I am very proud of you.

DHS ACCOUNTABILITY ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4038, the Department of Homeland Security Accountability Enhancement Act. This legislation works to ensure stability in our nation's Department of Homeland Security (DHS) by requiring the Secretary to submit organizational changes for congressional approval.

Our government is built upon a balance of power; arrangement has helped sustain our country for hundreds of years and is one of the most fundamental properties of our nation. H.R. 4038 ensures oversight of the DHS to guarantee that an appropriate balance of power is maintained. The DHS, the third largest department in the federal government, has already absorbed the Immigration and Naturalization Service and reorganized three new agencies since its creation in 2002. If the Secretary of DHS has the power to make extensive changes, he/she should be held accountable for them and should be required to obtain approval from Congress.

Furthermore, the current administration has been defined by unprecedented instability in the White House, with an extremely large turnover rate in President Trump's cabinet and administration. The DHS currently has no Secretary and is being run by an acting head who did not obtain congressional approval through the nomination process. This legislation would